

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A variable length cutting device, comprising:

a rotary cutter;

a transfer cylinder having a cutting ledge cooperating with said rotary cutter for cutting a ribbon into signatures having a desired cutoff length, said transfer cylinder further having a central cylinder axis, a circumferential region, a gripper and a tucking blade disposed in said circumferential region at a fixed distance from said central cylinder axis, and an adjustable diameter portion disposed between said gripper and said tucking blade in said circumferential region of said transfer cylinder, said adjustable diameter portion being movable in a direction toward and away from said central cylinder axis resulting in a change in a running line distance that the ribbon runs between said tucking blade and said cutting ledge for setting

~~for adjusting~~ the desired cutoff length of the signatures;
and

a dancer roller for compensating for variations in length of the ribbon.

Claim 2 (previously presented): A variable length cutting device, comprising:

a rotary cutter; and

a transfer cylinder cooperating with said rotary cutter for cutting a ribbon into signatures having a desired cutoff length, said transfer cylinder having a central cylinder axis, a circumferential region, a gripper and a tucking blade disposed in said circumferential region at a fixed distance from said central cylinder axis, and an adjustable diameter portion disposed between said gripper and said tucking blade in said circumferential region of said transfer cylinder, said adjustable diameter portion being movable in a direction toward and away from said central cylinder axis for adjusting the desired cutoff length of the signatures, and said adjustable diameter portion being an adjustable roller movable in the direction toward and away from said central cylinder axis.

Claim 3 (previously presented): A variable length cutting device, comprising:

a rotary cutter; and

a transfer cylinder cooperating with said rotary cutter for cutting a ribbon into signatures having a desired cutoff length, said transfer cylinder having a central cylinder axis, a circumferential region, a gripper and a tucking blade disposed in said circumferential region at a fixed distance from said central cylinder axis, and an adjustable diameter portion disposed between said gripper and said tucking blade in said circumferential region of said transfer cylinder, said adjustable diameter portion being movable in a direction toward and away from said central cylinder axis for adjusting the desired cutoff length of the signatures; and

one of a linear jack and an eccentric jack connected to said adjustable diameter portion for moving said adjustable diameter portion toward and away from said central cylinder axis.

Claim 4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (currently amended): The cutting device according to claim 1, including a cutting blade fixed to said rotary cutter and a said cutting ledge disposed in said circumferential region of said transfer cylinder for cooperating with said cutting blade.

Claim 6 (canceled).

Claim 7 (withdrawn-currently amended): The cutting device according to claim 1, including a gripper, said gripper and a said cutting ledge each connected to said variable diameter portion, said gripper and said cutting ledge movable toward and away from said central cylinder axis together with said variable diameter portion.

Claim 8 (withdrawn): A variable length cutoff folder, comprising:

a rotary cutter;

a transfer cylinder configured to cooperate with said rotary cutter for cutting a ribbon into signatures having a desired cutoff length, said transfer cylinder having a central cylinder axis, a circumferential region, and an adjustable diameter portion disposed in said circumferential region of

said transfer cylinder, said adjustable diameter portion connected to said transfer cylinder and being movable in a direction toward and away from said central cylinder axis for adjusting the desired cutoff length of the signatures;

a dancer roller for compensating for variations in length of the ribbon;

a jaw cylinder having a cylinder jacket and a jaw provided on said cylinder jacket; and

a gripper and a tucking blade provided in said circumferential region of said transfer cylinder at a fixed distance from said cylinder axis, cooperating with said jaw for folding the signatures into said jaw, and said adjustable diameter portion being located between said gripper and said tucking blade.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A variable length cutting device, comprising:

a rotary cutter;

a transfer cylinder cooperating with said rotary cutter for cutting a ribbon into signatures having a desired cutoff

length, said transfer cylinder having a central cylinder axis, a circumferential region carrying the ribbon during a cutting operation, a gripper and a tucking blade disposed in said circumferential region at a fixed distance from said central cylinder axis, and an adjustable diameter portion disposed between said gripper and said tucking blade in said circumferential region of said transfer cylinder, said adjustable diameter portion being movable in a direction toward and away from said central cylinder axis for adjusting the desired cutoff length of the signatures by selectively shortening and lengthening the circumferential region carrying the ribbon by said adjustable diameter portion pressing radially outward against a part of said circumference region; and

a dancer roller for compensating for variations in length of the ribbon.

Claim 10 (previously presented): A variable length cutting device, comprising:

a rotary cutter; and

a transfer cylinder cooperating with said rotary cutter for cutting a ribbon into signatures having a desired cutoff

length, said transfer cylinder having a central cylinder axis and a circumferential region, and an adjustable roller disposed in said circumferential region of said transfer cylinder, said adjustable roller being movable in a direction toward and away from said central cylinder axis for adjusting the desired cutoff length of the signatures.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A variable length cutting device, comprising:

a rotary cutter;

a transfer cylinder having a cutting ledge cooperating with said rotary cutter for cutting a ribbon into signatures having a desired cutoff length, said transfer cylinder further having a central cylinder axis, a circumferential region, one of a linear jack and an eccentric jack, and an adjustable diameter portion disposed in said circumferential region of said transfer cylinder, said one of said linear jack and said eccentric jack being connected to said adjustable diameter portion, to move said adjustable diameter portion in a direction toward and away from said central cylinder axis resulting in a change in a running line distance that the ribbon runs between said tucking blade and

said cutting ledge for setting ~~for adjusting~~ the desired
cutoff length of the signatures; and

a dancer roller for compensating for variations in length of
the ribbon.

Claim 12 (new). The variable length cutting device according
to claim 1, wherein the running line distance can be changed
up to 16.058 mm.

Claim 13 (new). The variable length cutting device according
to claim 1, wherein the running line distance can be changed
up to 41.36 mm.